

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 An entirely self-contained, patient-worn apparatus
for deep vein thrombosis (DVT) prophylaxis, and other
conditions includes an inflatable/deflatable bladder disposed
against an extremity such as the upper calf, foot, or hand of
a patient, or within a cast. An inelastic member is
preferably used to fully enclose the bladder and body part,
such that compressive forces are directed substantially
entirely against the body part of the patient when the bladder
10 expands, thereby conserving the power and reducing the volume
of pneumatic compression required to operate the device.
Given this conservation of energy, the invention may be
battery operated from a source immediately proximate to the
bladder arrangement, enabling the entire device to be self-
15 contained and, in fact, worn by the patient. The reduced
volume also allows the use of miniaturized components
including the compressor motor and compressor.